

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTEDMBY: S/S-O: ENEWSOM

APPROVED BY: S/-O: LMATTESON

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TO CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 169429

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

FOLL REPEAT SEOUL 5357 ACTION SECSTATE INFO

USUN NEW YORK 18 JUL 75:

QUOTE

S E C R E T SEOUL 5357

EXDIS

DEPT PASS CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, UNGA, KS

SUBJECT: COMMAND ARRANGEMENTS

REF: (A) SEOUL 4340 (B) STATE 131861

1. AMBASSADOR CALLED ON FONMIN KIM TONG-CHOSULY 18
TO DISCUSS COMMAND ARRANGEMENTS TO BE INSTITUTED SHOULD
UNC BE DISSOLVED.

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2. KIM SAID THE MOFA HAD HELD PRELIMINARY TALKS WITH

MND AND OTHER AGENCIES BUT THAT THE HAD NOT YET DISCUSSED
ISSUE IN DETAIL WITH THE PRESIDENT. HE WAS THUS UNABLE
TO OPEN TALKS WITH THE AMBASSADOR AT THIS TIME.

3. KIM SAID, NEVERTHELESS, THAT THE ROK AND US POSITIONS
ON A COMBINED COMMAND ARRANGEMENT EVIDENTLY DIFFERED
ON THREE POINTS:

(A) THE USG HOLDS THAT A US FOUR-STAR GENERAL WOULD BE
COMMANDER OF A COMBINED COMMAND AS LONG AS THERE WAS
A "SIGNIFICANT" US TROOP PRESENCE IN KOREA. THE ROKG
POSITION CALLED FOR A US COMMANDER AS LONG AS THE "PRESENT
LEVEL" OF US FORCES WAS MAINTAINED.

(B) THE USG WOULD NOT PUT US FORCES IN KOREA UNDER
OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF THE COMBINED COMMAND. THE ROKG
POSITION WAS THAT FORCES OF BOTH COUNTRIES SHOULD BE
UNDER THE COMMAND'S OPERATIONAL CONTROL. A LIST WOULD
BE DRAWN UP BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT SPECIFYING WHICH US
AND ROK UNITS WOULD BE PLACED UNDER THE COMMAND'S OPCON.

(C) THE ROKG WOULD SUBORDINATE THE COMBINED COMMAND TO
A MILITARY COMMITTEE OR SIMILAR ORGAN; THE US DID NOT FAVOR
SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT.

4. TAKING NOTE OF KIM'S POINTS, THE AMBASSADOR URGED
THAT THEY BEGIN DISCUSSIONF ON ISSUE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
KIM SAID HE THOUGHT TALKS COULD GET UNDERWAY EARLY NEXT WEEK.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY PLANS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, TROOP REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE169429
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O: ENEWSOM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750248-1004
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750742/aaaablcb.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 SEOUL 4340, 75 STATE 131861
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMAND ARRANGEMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, KS, US, UNGA, (KIM TONG-CHOSULY)
To: CINCPAC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006